



SOUTHERN CROSS

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Augsburg Lutheran Church, Burma, East Coast Demerara.

UPPER EAST COAST PARISH

Pastor H. C. Magalee

Approximately 45 miles East of Georgetown, and about six miles south of the sea shore is situated a small isolated but modern settlement surrounded on all sides by stretches of rice fields. This settlement with its vast rice fields and factory, with snakes and alligators hovering around, is Burma. Here, in this setting, is situated the Augsburg Lutheran Church and School.

At the inception of the Church, the Management, The Mahaicony Abari Rice Development Scheme, kindly placed at the Church's disposal, a building to be used for Church Services and Day School. This building was also used as a mess hall for the workers of the Scheme. Prevailing

conditions was most embarrassing. However, after years of hardships for both teachers and pupils, a ferro-concrete building, was erected. This was made possible, because of special grant of a sum of money from the Board of Foreign Missions of the United Lutheran Church in America. For this and the many countless gifts, we are deeply grateful to the Board.

On August, 10, 1958, Mrs. K Roberts, wife of the General Manager of the Scheme, cut the ribbon across the door and declared the building opened. The Rev. Aubrey R. Bowen, President of the Church, then proceeded with the Dedication Service.

◆ ◆ HOPE CONGREGATION ◆ ◆

CATECHIST WILFORD A. MORRIS

Welcome: Our heartiest welcome to the Rev. H. C. Magalee and his family. We trust that he will enjoy his stay and that he will find his work increasingly interesting.

Evangelism: Mrs. W. Davidson, known as Cousin Welli, is doing a fine job on this Committee. With the diligent help by Mrs. Davidson the following persons were confirmed ;—

Lucretia Fraser,
Maureen Hookumchand
Robert White.

Those baptised were :—

Mr. Paras Singh, known as Phillip, his wife Ramparie, known as Boabe, and their children Tabor, Int Khourie, Carlton, Ramkissoo, Bhagmatie.

Stewardship: Systematic giving is the emphasis, through the medium of the pledge system. The stewardship of time was very much shown when men and women embarked on a rice project in aid of the congregation. The processes of rice culti-

vation were reasonably shouldered by the members.

At the time of Harvest, men and women with the necessary implements went out to gather the results of their labour. The project was indeed a strenuous one, but our labour was not in vain. God has truly blessed our efforts.

Special Gift: Our heartfelt gratitude to Mr. David Sharp of Pln. Chester, West Coast, Berbice. His gift of nine bags of paddy to Hope Church was very much appreciated. We pray God's continued guidance and blessings upon Mr. Sharp.

Sunday School: Through the extra help that our teachers are being given by Miss Marianne Fague, at our monthly teachers' meeting, the pupils are deriving great benefits from their teachers.

Luther League: Officers of our League are as follows;

President	..	Carlton Davidson
Treasurer	..	Joseph H. Khodai
	..	Iris Booker

◆ ◆ CHRIST CONGREGATION ◆ ◆

CATECHIST WILFORD A. MORRIS

Welcome: With open arms, we welcome the Rev. Rev. H. C. Magalee. We pray God's blessing upon himself and family and sincerely wish him success in his efforts.

Evangelism: Evangelism is the heaven of this congregation. There is no rapid growth, but a gradual one, leavening the community. There is a definite determination in the hearts of many of her members to "shine forth".

With the invaluable help of Mrs. Vida Demomick the following persons were added to our membership on "Harvest Sunday"

Basil Demomick
George Jordon
Beatrice Blair
Lucille Luke
Norma Ward
Sheila Gravesande,
Raymond Ramsuchit
Neville Ishmael
Rexington Morris
Chandrowtee Samaroo

Stewardship: This phase of our programme is not yet saturated in this area; however, with what little knowledge and enthusiasm shown, there is much indication for advancement. With diligent efforts and determination, we hope to meet our financial goal for 1958.

Christ Sunday School: The Superintendent of this Sunday School is a council man Mr. Frederick Luke. Under his keen leadership, for many quarters now, we are always in a position to pay off our Sunday School bills.

Other teachers of the Sunday School are —

Miss Eugene Morgan
" Shirley Grant
" Norma Henry
" Pearl Cambridge
" Victoria Pierre
" Rona Mckenzie

No. 41 Sunday School: Mr. Neville Ishmael, a school teacher, is rendering

CHRIST CONG: EGATION

Continued

almost invaluable aid to the children of this Sunday School.

Miss Fague; Thanks to Miss Fague for devoting some of her time, patience and energy, at our monthly Sunday School teachers' meeting.



St. STEPHEN'S

J. S. ABDOOL .. LAY READER

Our harvest thanksgiving service was celebrated on November 16, 1958 at 9.00 a.m. when a very large gathering filled the church to capacity. The church was well decorated, and every one present at the service was very happy as thanks was being rendered to Almighty for blessings enjoyed through out the year.

This congregation is on the march and is progressing very nicely. It is the first time in its history that it has received a sum of one hundred and seventy-eight dollars, including offering and sales, at a harvest service, and we are certain by God's grace of exceeding our apportionment of three hundred and eighteen dollars for 1958.

At the service the following persons were admitted to church by baptism and confirmation;—

Parcival Birmasi	Adult Baptism
Pertab Bhoro	
Lloyd Baichoo	"Confirmation"
Schrikissoon Kublall	"
Lilette Ramsarran	"

To these we say congratulations, and may they find peace and salvation as they serve their Master better every day.

Sunday Schools; St. Stephen's church has two Sunday Schools which are progressing wonderfully, so much so, that more children are being added to the roll. The stewardship is good and we are certain of paying all bills for 1958 before the ending of the year. The teachers are all doing their best and they attend very regularly.

Names, classes and names of teachers of both Sunday Schools are as follows:—

St. Stephen's Sunday School

Junior	Mr. Bridgbassie Samaroo
Primary	Mr. David Kublall
Beginners	Mr. J. Abdool

Luther League: The officers of this organisation are as follows:

President	Wilfred Samaroo
Sec. Treasurer	Princess David
Asst. Sec. Treasurer	Eugena Morgan
Ex. Officio	Wilford A. Morris

Kildonan Sunday School

Junior	Miss Eileen Sooklall
Primary	Master William Pile
Beginners	Master Vincent Ramphal

One of our teachers Vincent Ramphal is a patient in the Berbice Hospital. We do wish him a speedy recovery and pray he will always remain faithful.

Luther League: This league has lost two very faithful members, who have gone out of the colony and are now studying. They are Mr Joseph Drepaul, who was the secretary, and who is now pursuing a course in medicine at the Inter American University, Puerto Rico, and Mr, Christ-endat Molai, who was in the planning committee, and who is now studying Law in England. We wish them well, and we hope when they return to the colony that they would serve us in a greater capacity. However, we are endeavouring our best to build up the League with more members and also to help in every possible way. Our stewardship is not bad for we have already paid in thirteen dollars towards our objective.

Its Officers for 1958

President	Miss Savitree Kublall
Vice-President	Mr. David Kublall
Secretary	Mr. Bridgbassie Samaroo
Treasurer	Mr. John Abdool
Advisor	Miss Eileen Sooklall

Sewing Class: This organisation is doing a fine work among the young people of our church, and those in and around, our community. The members are very helpful to the congregation for whenever asked or called upon they would assist in decorating, sweeping, scrubbing, and even in cleaning the yard. We do hope to start a confirmation class very early by recruiting pupils from this Sew-

ST STEPHEN'S

ing Class.

Women's League; This league is of a great asset to our churches both St. Stephen and St. Luke. Our women are more educated and have grown spiritually. Sunday service alone is inadequate for our people and so it is good that God has blessed us with Women's League.

Its officers are active and the League meets twice in the month, once with Miss Zartman and with members from both churches, and secondly each church with its members meets with Miss E. Sooklall



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St. JAMES

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Congregation; This year has been a great blessing for this congregation. We have seen the fruits and power of the Holy Spirit manifested

First of all, we want to thank Almighty God for our new St. James Chapel at Whim, which is like a beacon light to this superstitious and idolatrous community. Secondly we are also grateful for the Church to consider our great need by giving us this fine building. This Chapel was dedicated by Rev. A. R. Bowen, President of our Church.

Apportionment; With the pledge system that was introduced early this year, we were not only able to meet our apportionment of \$221.00 but also we were able to furnish our entire Church and pay other expenses and benevolences. These we could not do with our own might and knowledge, neither are we looking for any praise, but we must confess that these were wrought by Divine Guidance, and the working of the Holy Spirit in the lives of dedicated men, women and youngsters of this congregation. So to Him let us give praise and honor and thanks.

We pray and hope that 1959 will be a better year for us, when we can give more than we have given this year, for we have already realized that the things that seemed impossible to us are not impossible for Him, and proof for this is our experience for 1958.

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once every fortnight.

This League is growing strong with a membership of twenty one. The stewardship is good and we hope that this League would find it possible to present a communion set as a gift to one of its congregation.

We do hope and pray that this League would continue its good work, and may the good Master bless, guide and sustain all its officers and members as they faithfully serve Him.

Evangelism; Although Whim is noted to be a hot-bed for superstition and idolatry, the Gospel is being preached, taught and witnessed among these people. Some have already accepted Jesus as their Lord and Saviour and are in the confirmation classes, yet our task is to work harder because the day is far gone and the night is coming when we can work no more.

Preaching Mission; The congregation conducted a preaching mission in November this year through which we have received 10 prospective members. They will be enrolled in the confirmation class soon.

Luther League; We are hoping to have our annual election of Luther League Officers in January 1959.

We regret to state that we have lost our Assistant Advisor and former President of this League, Mr. Hardatt A. Rampersaud who left the colony early this year to further his studies in the United Kingdom. We pay special respect for the many leadership qualities he possessed, and honor him for the many good works and contribution he had given to this league. May God bless him wherever he may be as he works continually for his Master.

Sunday Schools: The Sunday School cabinet which meets monthly is of a great asset to our Sunday Schools. The attendances in these Sunday Schools are remarkable. We thank God, also we

St. JAMES

Continued

want to thank all the Sunday School teachers who are co-operating very well to further this Great Work among the children.

Please pray for us as we proclaim Him as Lord, Master and Saviour of this World.
"Breathe Thou upon us Lord, The Spirits

Livnig Flame

That so with one accord, Our lips may tell thy name

Give Thou the hearing ear, Fix thou the wandering thought

That those we teach may hear, The great things Thou has wrought."

St. LUKE'S

J, S. ABDPOOL .. LAY READER

The Festival of harvest was held on November 30, 1958 at 11.30 a.m. when a very large gathering packed the church, so much that people had to be standing outside of the building until the Service ended.

Hymns selected were 484, 486 and 283 and everybody sang them vigorously as they worshipped and expressed thanks to the Maker. A very forceful and inspiring sermon was preached by the Rev. F. D. Christhilf, a message which touched us and which was very appropriate.

At this Harvest Service a sum of over one hundred and thirty nine dollars was received including offering and sales. This is history also for this congregation, for it is the first time that it has received such an offering at a Harvest Service.

Lastly we are very happy to state that this congregation has already exceeded its apportionment of three hundred dollars for 1958.

Sunday Schools; St. Luke's congregation also has two Sunday Schools which are functioning very well. The teachers are all active, they go visiting and are very prompt in Sunday Schools.

The Stewardship is good, for we have paid all bills for 1958 in full.

Names, classes, and names of teachers of both Sunday Schools are as follow;—

St. Luke's Sunday School

Junior	Miss Eileen Sooklall
Primary	Mr. Pertab Bhiri
Beginners	Mr. Cyril Drepaul
Intermediate	Mr. John Abdool

Maida Sunday School

Junior — Miss Eileen Sooklall

Primary — Mr. Pertab Bhiri
Beginners — Mr. John Abdool

Luther League: For years St. Luke's congregation has been operating without a Luther League, but thanks be to God for enabling us to form one which started on October 16, 1958. It is growing rapidly and we have more than twelve adult members and many juniors. We have already requested that it be affiliated to the Synodical Luther League, so that it could have better recognition.

Its officers for 1958 are as follows;—
President Mr. Cyril Drepaul
Vice-President Miss Orleen Drepaul
Secretary Miss Eileen Sahadeo
Asst. Vice-Mr. Jaikaran Bridglall
Secretary
Treasurer Miss Eileen Sooklall
Advisor Mr. John Abdool

Sewing Class: This organisation has had a steady growth. It has on roll sixty five girls with a weekly average attendance of about forty five.

Playlets; A Playlet on the "Advent of our Lord", and another on the "Meaning of Advent", were staged by the Luther League and the Sewing Class respectively on November 30, at 7.30 p.m. when a very large audience crowded the church. The children were all beautifully dressed with costumes of various colours and they all did exceedingly well. Truly, I must say, that by having these two playlets, many of us now can say that we know that is Advent and what it means to us. Our thanks goes to Miss Zartman and Miss Sooklall who have helped in making these playlets a real success.

... St. JOHN'S ...

Catechist — D. LalSingh

Harvest Service: A special service was held on Sunday November 23, 1958 at 7.30 p.m. The guest preacher was Pastor William E. Cox of Ebenezer Lutheran Church, New Amsterdam. His text was based on Malachi 3:10, "The windows of heaven". Everyone listened with great attention. The church was filled to capacity.

During this service it was the privilege of Pastor Cox on behalf of Pastor Christilf to confirm two people and to receive one by admission.

Advent Pageant: On Sunday, November 30, 1958 the Women's League and Luther League of St. John's combined to Stage their Advent Pageant. Everyone who attended was well satisfied and commented on its message.

Those who took part were happy to do their bit and they are to be complimented.

Film Show: On Wednesday December 3, 1958 at 7.30 p.m. Pastor Christilf howed two films namely .. "The Candles Maker", and "Salt of the Earth".

At the interval the pastor made appropriate explanation of the films.

Baptisms:

1. Anthony Ramlingum
2. Badrindrine Muthusamy
3. Krishna ..
4. Ahayha Leela ..
5. Aubrey Dhanraj ..

Confirmations:

1. Muthusamy
2. Doris Tetarie Buchan

Admission

Francis B. A. E. Potter

Plans: Plans are on foot to go out in the vicinity singing carols and to stage a Christmas programme.

Chancel: The Women's League of the church has given \$38.00 to polish the chancel of the church and aisle. The congregation say thanks to the League for this gift. Every effort would be made to polish the floor before Christmas.

St. John Women's League: We are happy to report that the women are growing and strengthened spiritually in the Lord's vineyard. They are doing their very best where Evangelism is concerned. We have a sick Committee made up of three members who go visiting once every week the sick members, the lapsed members and also the non-Christian. This visitation has done much to impress the very hearts of our people.

At present we are having a series of Cottage Meetings in various homes of our women in the league. For this term we have had a series of Topic on Flannelgraph based on "Jesus Calls Us". The women are also enjoying these very much. We have our meetings every Monday. On the 3rd Monday, the Lady Missionary, Miss R. Zartman, brings the topic along with film strips which are very interesting.

We do hope and pray by God's help that He will continue to strengthen us daily to keep on pressing forward for the upliftment of His church here on earth.

♦ ♦ SKELDON PARISH ♦ ♦

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

- - Catechist J. M. Ramlochan

Evangelism: The light of Evangelism is still burning as the Committee continues to follow up the prospects.

Stewardship: We are happy to report

that this congregation is successful in reaching its apportionment for 1958.

Our Harvest Thanksgiving Service was held on 23rd November. With a fairly

Nativity Lutheran Church

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large gathering, the Pastor preached a stirring sermon. Some fine gifts were presented to the harvest such as rice, paddy, pumpkin, cakes, eggs, bananas plantains and ovaltine. The building was tastefully decorated as an indication of a successful harvest.

A fine programme was presented by the pupils of the Sunday School on Monday 24th November. Crowds overflowed the small building. We are sincerely hoping for a new church building in which to worship in the near future.

Our Pastor recently had a meeting with the members of the lay visiting group to discuss the every member visit and the pledge card system. He also instructed this group in how to make a call on a member in order to introduce the pledge card system. Many members have welcomed this new method in giving. They made their pledge by signing the pledge card and promise to give more as the Lord will prosper them for 1959. These members have caught the vision of Jesus Christ and will endeavour to do their best to further His Kingdom in this part of His vineyard.

Lay Visiting Committee: Misses Urmella Sieusarran, Lalawattie, Everlene Henry, Mr. David Basdeo and Timothy Karamachan are doing a fine job in presenting the members with the pledge card.

Luther League: Our League is progressing gradually. The Executive members meet once every month to dis-

cuss plans for improving the League programme.

Mr. Edward Sewdat, President of the District League has lent a helping hand by giving us necessary hints and good counsel regarding our Luther League.

We are happy to announce that we will be the host to the Luther League Rally which will be held on the 15th December, 1958.

The Sunday School: The Sunday School pupils are preparing to have a Christmas Concert on the 24th December at 7.00 p.m. after which they will go Christmas carolling

Promotion Sunday: October 5th, was recognised as promotion Sunday in this Sunday School. Many children were promoted to their new classes. Six children received gifts for regular attendance. They are; Barbara Ramlochan, Rondolph Ramsuchit, Kamlawatie Sumasar, Toiee Henry, Sumintra Sankar and Verna Shah.

We are grateful to Miss R. Zartman for supplying these gifts.

Women League: Since her arrival on the Upper Corentyne, Miss Ruth Zartman has done excellent work. At Nativity she has organized a Women's League along with a Sewing Class. Miss Zartman is paying fortnightly visits to the Sewing Class and Women's League.

We are thankful to Almighty God for sending us such an ardent worker as Miss Zartman.

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Catechist H Rajabally

Evangelism;

"On With The Message!"

On with the Message! On with the light!
On to the regions still shrouded in night,
On to the nations which never have heard:

On with the life-giving, soul saving word
On with the message: Strive more and more;

Soon will the days for proclaiming be
c'er

On to all lengths, to where none have

yet gone—

On with the Message! On, on, and on,
Wesley Duewel.

Evangelism; Our congregation is still having the Evangelism fire burning. Our lay visitors are active and recently we took part in the Every Member Visit. We are going all out for we want every member to take part in the program of the church.

Stewardship; "Selfish Christian"

"Selfishness imposes on others—monopolises their time and their strength,

Skeldon Parish

Continued

Selfishness pushes its claims and whims on other people, It takes an hour to say what could be said in a moment, It selfishly intrudes on busy people, tired and sick people, It taxes the patience of its friends,

Oh, if that rattling, prayerless, selfish tongue would talk less and pray more the Kingdom of God would be advanced on earth a thousand fold more,"

Our congregation is confident of going over double apportionment. We have paid also contributions to L.L.M. and the British and Foreign Bible Society, India and Africa Funds. November was a hard month for us. We took part in the Every Member Visit, trying to secure pledges for 1959. Our harvest was celebrated on the 23rd November, and Mr. C. S. Chu was our guest preacher who spoke on the 103 Psalm.

G.C.E. Results 1958; Special congratulations go out to Gangindra Persaud and Harold Brigbassi on passing their exam. More especially do we want to congratulate the Catechist who was successful also at the same examination.

St. Philip's

Catechist H. Rajabally

Evangelism: Duty is ours, the result is God's. It's Christian job to turn the eyes of the world to Christ. We are not responsible for conversion, but we are responsible for contact. We are to go everywhere and preach the gospel.

Stewardship; The Every Member Visit was also conducted in this congregation. Pastor F. D. Christhilf showed us some films which showed us how to approach a call.

"God wants our best. He in the far off ages

Once claimed the firstling of the flocks,
the finest of the wheat;

He still asks His own, with gentlest pleading,

To lay their highest hopes and brightest talents at His feet.

He'll not forget the feeblest service,

humblest love;

He only asks that of our store we give
to Him the best we have!

And is our best, too much? O friends,
let us remember

How once our Lord poured out His
soul for us

And in the prime of His mysterious
manhood, gave up His precious life
upon the Cross!

The Lord of lords, by whom the world
was made,

Through bitter grief and pain, gave us
the best He had!

St. Matthias Lutheran Church

Catechist E. Muckunlall

We are pleased to report that this congregation had a successful harvest. The place in which we worshipped was nicely decorated and was filled to capacity with children and adults.

At the end of the service the children of the Sunday School presented a Harvest Programme.

The average attendance at the Sewing Class has now reached thirty-two. The girls who attend this class are learning to love Miss Zartman who has proved to be a real friend to them. We owe her many thanks for this fine work she is doing in this Parish.

St. Barnabas Lutheran Church

Catechist E. Muckunlall

Our report goes forth with thanks to God who has so richly blessed this Parish not only with more members added into the Church and with a double apportionment, but with more spirituality.

This preaching point had a successful harvest-offering and sales reached an amount of seventy-two dollars (72.00), which was next to highest in the Parish. To date fifteen persons were received by Holy Baptism this year and three by the rite of confirmation.

The attendance at Worship Service, Sunday School and Luther League is growing.

